



San Francisco Bay Area Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America

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February 2016, e-mail edition

A Fond Farewell to the SFBA Section and California



JuliAnn and I joined MBCA in 1996 while living in the Chicago area. When we moved to Dublin, California in 1999, we transitioned to the SFBA Section. An immediate realization was that this Section was enthusiastic, active and involved. And, it continues to be. With almost 900 members, our objective is "having fun" through



First Sunday Drive

February 7, 2016

February's drive will repeat a route from yesteryear. Details will be announced via email shortly. We will start somewhere in Napa and wander up Highway 121, through the farm and vineyard country (with a winery stop) and end our drive at Taylor's Refresher, a world-famous burger stand in St. Helena.

Jack Weir
(925) 899-4298 cell

many types of events, be it technical, social, educational or our member sponsored First Sunday Drives. This makes our Section so dynamic. The more every member participates and contributes, the more dynamic our Section can be!

Following my retirement in 2001, my interest focused on our Section's Technical Events and I attended many. In 2012 Richard Simonds asked if I would consider taking over as our Section's Technical Director. After some discussion, I agreed and was subsequently appointed to the Board of Directors as the new Technical Director.

During my tenure as Technical Director, I was very fortunate to be able to organize several events. My personal favorites were the two Tesla Factory Tours; a Historical Adventure Weekend in Southern California where we visited the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center, the Mullin Automotive Museum, and the specialty auto wood restoration shop Madera Concepts; and the visit to the Mercedes-Benz Research and Development North America (MBRDNA) in Sunnyvale.

From the time I was appointed to our Board, my hope (quietly) was to someday become our Section's President. Well, that opportunity came sooner than anticipated. After being elected Vice President of our Section for 2015-2016, our Section President, Geoff Paulsen, late 2015, had to make the difficult decision to step down at the end of 2015 due to personal reasons. I was asked if I would consider running for President. I did and was elected.

Now about our farewell to our Section and California. Over the past few years, JuliAnn and I have discussed her "whenever" retirement and

**Call for Mercedes-Benz
from 1886 to 1991 for the
60th Annual Hillsborough
Concours d'Elegance
Sunday, July 17, 2016**

I am on the Hillsborough Concours d'Elegance Committee with responsibility to get classic and special interest Mercedes-Benz vehicles.

I have been asked to get cars in each of these classes:

MB-1, Pre-War [1886 Patent Wagen re-creation, 1936 260D, 500K/540K, 770, etc. (8-10 total from all sources)]

MB-2, Post-War [170V, 170S, 220S/SE, 300 Series, 280SE 6.3, 450SEL 6.9, 280SE 3.5 Coupe/Cabriolet, 600 Limousine, etc. (8-10)]

MB-3 SL Class [300SL Coupes/Roadsters, W121s, W113s, R/C 107s, R129s up to 1991 (8-10)]

The Hillsborough Concours d'Elegance website

is: <http://www.hillsboroughconcours.org> for a look at recent shows.

The 2016 details are not yet available.

Many thanks,

Richard Simonds
650-722-0299 (mobile)
650-592-7613 (home)
rsimonds@pacbell.net

Classified

FOR SALE:

1988 SL500

where we would go. That "whenever" decision was to find a future location in a moderate climate closer to our families in Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, South Carolina and Virginia. We both expected this search to take at least a year or two. We had explored the Carolinas in the past and liked what we saw. Early November 2015, a great home in Sanford, North Carolina (with land and garage space for four cars) just south of Raleigh had just come on the market. We took a chance and made an offer. It was quickly accepted, much to our surprise, and is now ours. And, while JuliAnn doesn't get to retire yet, she will be able to manage her business remotely with occasional travel west. But, still looking forward to the big R-Day.

Bottom line, we will be relocating much sooner than expected and our move will occur this February and I will, very reluctantly, have to step down as our SFBA Area Section President effective January 31.

Very fortunately, our Section has two very capable Board Members in Lou Piccinini and Eric Wee who have agreed to step up to the Presidency and Vice Presidency with Lou as President and Eric as Vice President. Our thanks to both Lou and Eric!

This will be a new and huge adventure for JuliAnn and me at this juncture in our lives, however we are really looking forward to it.

We will definitely continue our MBCA affiliation as I have already looked into Sections active near our new location.

We have, very much, enjoyed being members of this great Section. We will miss all of you that we have come to know over our 17 years in the Bay



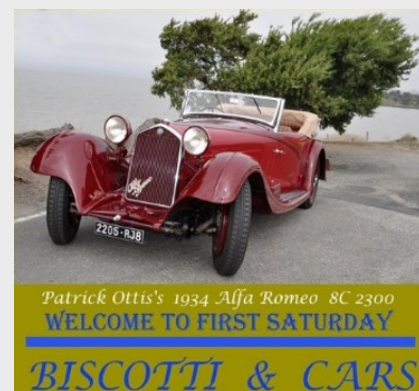
1991 350SDL



1987 190E-16V



Other events of interest:



Biscotti and Cars

First Saturday Each Month
Sausalito

Area. We look forward to keeping in touch.

Our Best to all of you,

Steve and JuliAnn Robinson

National Events:

**Starfest 2016, Hosted by
MBCA Minuteman Section**

New Officers

The updated officers for 2016 are:

**President: Lou Piccinini
(650) 291-2805**

**Vice President: Eric Wee
(650) 406-9078**

Secretary:

Treasurer: Mauna Wagner

Membership: Alan Ralph

Newsletter:

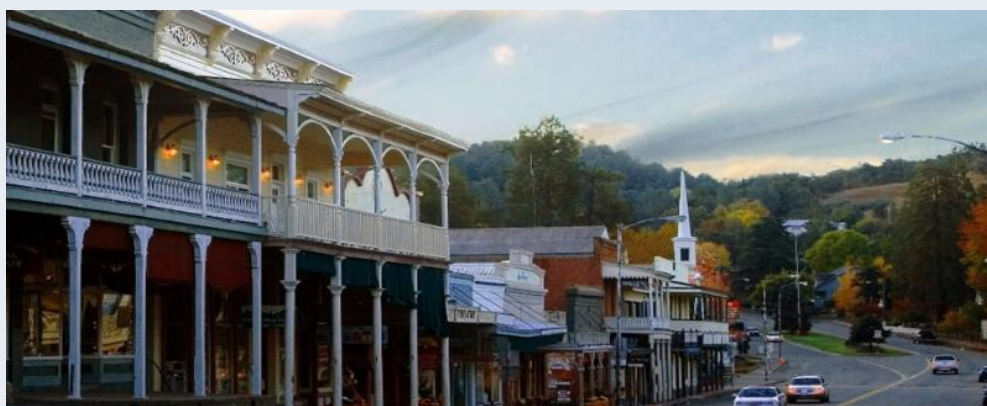
**Webmaster: David Sears
(408) 916-8100**

**Your suggestions for club
activities are always
welcome!**

Please feel free to contact your
Officers to talk about any club-
related matter!

Visit our club website for up-to-
date information on club events.
sfba.mbca.org

Sacramento Section Event



From Bill Brandt, Sacramento Section:

I have heard rumors that there is some kind of a "big game" going on the same day as our first Sunday drive .

With that in mind, I have decided to reverse our usual plan and begin our drive in Sutter Creek. We will end our drive at a restaurant near CSUS. For those of you who are unfamiliar with our drives, we try very hard to gather at the starting place by 9:30 AM and try even harder to leave at 10 AM.

If you have a walkie-talkie, I would request that you bring it along. I will have one as the lead car, Bill will be our rear car, and he will have one just in case anybody gets mixed up. That being said, my cell phone is area code (916) 799-1454.

I sure hope everyone can join us, and by the way we are inviting the folks from the Bay Area to join in the fun .

We will begin at

**Choc-O-Latte
46 Main Street
Sutter Creek,CA**

**Our lunch spot will be :
Fahrenheit 250
7042 Folsom Blvd
Sacramento,CA
95826**

As usual, we depart at 10:00. Most people get up there by 9:30 to have a coffee and socialize.

If anyone is interested, I could take you on a private tour of Sierra Window Coverings after lunch.

Course Route:

Start: 46 Main Street Sutter Creek

1.2 Miles Left on Hwy 49

.2 Miles - Right on Ridge

1.9 Miles right on Hwy 88

7.3 Miles Right on Hwy 104

3.4 Miles Right Michigan Bar Road

1.7 Miles Right Carbondale Road

8.3 Miles Right Hwy 16

.3 Miles Right Fiddletown Road

15.6 Miles Right on Consolation Street

6.0 Miles Left on Charlestown Road

.1 Miles Right Sutter Creek Road

11.9 Miles Right Main Street

3.1 Miles Right Hwy 49

2.8 Miles Left on Hwy 16

Follow Hwy 16 until it reaches Folsom Blvd (no mileage recorded)

Left on Folsom

The restaurant, Fahrenheit 250 will be on your left side as you pass CSUS (7042 Folsom Blvd)



You are invited to attend the only MBCA Judging School to be held in the SF Bay Area in 2016. If you love classic Mercedes-Benz cars (1886 to 1991) and would like to learn what judges look for in competition, then this judging school is for you.

After completing the judging school you will work with an experienced judge until you are confident in your own judging abilities.

Judging School will be held Saturday, March 5, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. at a private car collection in Burlingame. We will be allowed to see the collection.

The Candy Store at Burlingame Avenue and East Lane, Burlingame

12:45 p.m. Check-in

1:00 p.m. Judging School (PowerPoint Presentation and Judges Booklet)

2:00 p.m. Practice judging with experienced judges

2:30 p.m. Discuss practice judging and answer questions

3:00 p.m. Adjourn and view private collection at The Candy Store

3:30 p.m. We must leave the premises

Coffee, juice, and cookies will be available all afternoon.

Cost: \$15 CASH at check-in to cover expenses and the fee for use of the Candy Store

RSVP to Richard Simonds no later than Tuesday, March 1, 2016.

Richard Simonds

650-722-0299 (mobile)

650-592-7613 (home)

rsimonds@pacbell.net



January 2016 First Sunday Drive

Jack Weir, drive leader

Not to be deterred by chilly weather, 14 stalwart Mercedes folks rolled out the new year on a run from Castro Valley to the Dead Fish restaurant in Crockett. Eight MBZ's, racing from a classic 1984 "Binz Company" ambulance model to the latest SL's, made the 45 mile drive through Chabot Regional Park and Contra Costa's back country to the Briones reservoir. Low water levels in area reservoirs were noted, and we then drove along the shoreline of San Pablo Bay among the many refineries situated there to our final vista point, overlooking the Carquinez Straits and the California Maritime Academy.

The academy's training ship Golden Bear was docked almost under the Al Zampa memorial

bridge. (Mr. Zampa was one of the iron workers who constructed the original Carquinez Bridge, which was relocated by the current state-of-the-art span.)

Seated at a long table, we feasted on the seafood specialties offered at the Dead Fish, and renewed old friendships and swapped car tales. The First Sunday Drive program, originally developed by SFBA past president Robert Schilling, continues to provide monthly opportunities for half-day drives anywhere in the section's large geographic map, and members are invited to visit the website and join us next time.



Stahl Motors in Monterey

First Mercedes-Benz Dealer in California



On Saturday, January 23rd, 31 members gathered at Mercedes-Benz of Monterey for a tech session about parts. Parts Manager Ken Brown gave us a very informative and entertaining talk about this subject. We also got to tour the dealership and meet many of the staff. I think we all were impressed with the small town feeling and personal attention we received. I feel the dealership went out of its way to make us welcome and even gave each of us a small gift.

In addition to our local members, we had members from two other sections attend. Our Western Regional Director, Allen Wrenn, from the Sacramento Section was in attendance along with six members from the Sierra Nevada Section including their President, Don Williams.

After the session 18 of us drove to nearby Fisherman's Wharf for a very good and reasonably priced sea food lunch which was enjoyed by all. This event sold out; so you should register early for future events if you want to attend, don't wait till the last minute, you might not get a place.

Peter Judy
Technical Director

Local Shops

San Francisco



Automotive Services
For Mercedes-Benz & BMW –
Serving San Francisco since 1971



Pete's Inc., 1745 Clay Street, San Francisco, 415.441.5896

Mid-Peninsula, San Mateo



MB Garage, 2165 Palm Ave., San Mateo

South Bay, Campbell

**MERCEDES
CONNEXION**
Service & Repair of your Mercedes-Benz

Al Bernal
(408) 394-3057

155 Kennedy Avenue
Campbell, CA 95008



Mercedes Connexion, 155 Kennedy Ave., Campbell